

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A nonwoven fabric sheet characterized by having a porosity in the range of 0.3 to 0.7, ~~and~~ a maximum pore size in the range of 0.5 μm to 5.0 μm , and a maximum pore size (μm)/average pore size (μm) ratio of 1.30 or lower.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 1, wherein the fiber constituting the nonwoven fabric is a polyolefin fiber.
4. (previously presented) The nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 3, wherein the polyolefin is a polymer of 4-methyl-1-pentene.
5. (previously presented) A laminate comprising the nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 1 and a strength retention material laminated thereon.
6. (withdrawn, previously presented) A method of producing a nonwoven fabric sheet characterized by molding a thermoplastic resin by a melt-blown method into a resin molded article in nonwoven fabric form; and subsequently press-molding said resin molded article in nonwoven fabric form with an elastic pressing means having a Young's modulus of 20 kg/cm^2 to 600 kg/cm^2 at a temperature lower than the melting point of the thermoplastic resin.
7. (withdrawn, previously presented) The method of producing the nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 6, wherein the pressing means has a Young's modulus of 20 kg/cm^2 to 300 kg/cm^2 .

8. (currently amended) A filter that filters a substance, a light diffusion material, a liquid absorber, or a heat insulating material comprising the nonwoven fabric according to Claim 1.
9. (previously presented) A laminate comprising the nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 2 and a strength retention material laminated thereon.
10. (previously presented) A laminate comprising the nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 3 and a strength retention material laminated thereon.
11. (previously presented) A laminate comprising the nonwoven fabric sheet according to Claim 4 and a strength retention material laminated thereon.
12. (currently amended) A filter that filters a substance, a light diffusion material, a liquid absorber, or a heat insulating material comprising the laminate according to Claim 5.
13. (currently amended) A filter that filters a substance, a light diffusion material, a liquid absorber, or a heat insulating material comprising the laminate according to Claim 9.
14. (currently amended) A filter that filters a substance, a light diffusion material, a liquid absorber, or a heat insulating material comprising the laminate according to Claim 10.
15. (currently amended) A filter that filters a substance, a light diffusion material, a liquid absorber, or a heat insulating material comprising the laminate according to Claim 11.
16. (new) The laminate according to claim 5, wherein the strength retention material comprises a spun-bonded nonwoven fabric, a melt-blown nonwoven fabric, a dry-laid nonwoven fabric, a woven fabric, paper or a film.

17. (new) The laminate according to claim 9, wherein the strength retention material comprises a spun-bonded nonwoven fabric, a melt-blown nonwoven fabric, a dry-laid nonwoven fabric, a woven fabric, paper or a film.
18. (new) The laminate according to claim 10, wherein the strength retention material comprises a spun-bonded nonwoven fabric, a melt-blown nonwoven fabric, a dry-laid nonwoven fabric, a woven fabric, paper or a film.
19. (new) The laminate according to claim 11, wherein the strength retention material comprises a spun-bonded nonwoven fabric, a melt-blown nonwoven fabric, a dry-laid nonwoven fabric, a woven fabric, paper or a film.
20. (new) The laminate according to claim 5, wherein the laminate comprising two or more layers, the laminate comprising one or more nonwoven fabric sheets according to Claim 1 and one strength retention material.